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Resource Advisors Needed for Public Land Management

PORTLAND – There are openings for a dozen people to advise and recommend management strategies for federal lands east of the Cascade Range. Two Resource Advisory Councils (RAC) focus on public land planning and issues on lands administered by the BLM and the US Forest Service in central and eastern Oregon. The John Day-Snake RAC and the Southeast Oregon RAC each have six openings. BLM Oregon State Director Ed Shepard said, "With the great demands on public lands and resources, we need interested citizens to serve on these RACs. Many people rely on the health and productivity of those lands for their work and play. The RACs have been effective partners in resolving on-the-ground issues because the members care about these lands and the quality of life in the Northwest." Nominations for these key advisors will be accepted through **April 14, 2008.**

The Federal Advisory Committee Act requires RACs to be balanced and represent the variety of interests concerned with public land management. Vacancies and expired terms this year include representatives of: environmental groups, timber industry, public-at-large, transportation/rights-of-way, commercial recreation and/or off-highway vehicle (OHV) users, energy and minerals, wild horse and burro, and dispersed recreation interests.

Individuals may nominate themselves or others, and current members whose terms expire in September may be renominated. Candidates must reside in the State where the council has jurisdiction. For a nomination form or additional information, please contact Pam Robbins, Bureau of Land Management, (pam_robbins@or.blm.gov), P.O. Box 2965, Portland, Oregon, (503) 808-6306, or your local BLM District Office.

The BLM manages more land – 258 million surface acres – than any other Federal agency. Most of this public land is located in 12 Western States, including Alaska. The Bureau, with a budget of about \$1.8 billion, also administers 700 million acres of subsurface mineral estate throughout the nation. The BLM's multiple-use mission is to sustain the health and productivity of the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations. The Bureau accomplishes this by managing such activities as outdoor recreation, livestock grazing, mineral development, and energy production, and by conserving natural, historical, and cultural resources on the public lands.



RAC FACT SHEET

The RACs are an integral part of land management for federal agencies. Local RACs provide valuable advice on developing management plans and alternatives. Their expertise helps to refine project initiatives for issues as varied as grazing, forest health, land exchanges, and recreation management.

Council members are unpaid, but are reimbursed for travel and per diem expenses. RACs usually meet quarterly within their geographic area. Appointees serve a three year term. Current recruitment and specific RAC information follows:

John Day-Snake RAC

Position

Geographic area

Energy/Minerals
Transportation/Rights-of-Way
Public-at-Large
Environmental organizations
Commercial timber

Resources located in whole or in part within the Prineville, Vale, and Spokane Districts of the BLM; the Umatilla, Wallowa Whitman, Malheur, and Ochoco National Forests; and the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area

Southeast Oregon RAC

Position

Geographic area

Commercial timber *
Energy/Minerals
Commercial Recreation/OHV
Dispersed Recreation
Transportation/Rights-of-Way
Wild Horse & Burro

Resources located in whole or in part within the Vale, Burns, and Lakeview Districts of the BLM and the Fremont, and Malheur National Forests

Nominations must include a completed background information nomination form, letter(s) of reference from the interest category to be represented, and any other information that demonstrates the nominee's qualifications. Nominees will be evaluated based on their experience working with the interest area they choose to represent, and their knowledge of the Council's geographic area. Nominees must also have demonstrated a commitment to collaborative resource decision-making. Completed application packets should be sent to Pam Robbins, P.O. Box 2965, Portland, OR 97208-2965.

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^{*} Term expires in 2010 on Southeast Oregon